

The Commonwealth.

E. HILLIARD, - - - Editor.
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DEMOCRACY UNMIXED.

THE COMMONWEALTH believes that North Carolina needs a straight fight by the Democratic party in the coming campaign, without any mixing whatever. The State Democratic Committee met in Raleigh Tuesday night, and at this writing we have not learned what was done. We hope they took no unwise steps, and did nothing that looks towards fusion with anything or anybody.

For many years North Carolina had a model government under a Democratic administration. While good democracy controlled we were happy and prosperous. When some became dissatisfied through the unfortunate influence that stealthily crept into the Farmers' Alliance, a breach was made in the ranks of our glorious democracy, which has at last well-nigh ruined the State. And now when we do see some hope of redeeming the State from the slimy coils of corrupt administration, it would seem the height of folly to allow any of this evil influence to cling to us as we extricate ourselves from the octopus grasp of the Republican party. It would seem as reasonable to advise a young man to associate with evil companions of every name and nature in order to purify and keep pure his life, as for the Democratic party to fuse with Populists or Republicans in order to redeem the State from the ruin that has already fastened its clutches upon us. We must have no fusion. Nothing but a straight fight on the highest plane of pure democracy will bring us back to our proper place.

THE WRECK WILL TELL ITS STORY.

Under the excitement consequent upon the destruction of the battleship Maine, all kinds of wild talk is indulged in. All kinds of theories are advanced, and thousands of men have already sat in judgment on the matter even before the investigation has fairly begun.

The following from the Philadelphia Record is the most sensible view we have seen:

"It is not to be believed that the Spanish Government had any direct agency in blowing up the battleship Maine. It is, therefore, not expected that investigation as to the cause of the disaster will develop any incriminating evidence that would bring about hostilities. Under these circumstances the concession on the part of the Spaniards that the investigation shall be carried on independently by the United States officials is wise. As a matter of fact, whilst the jurisdiction of the United States could not be disputed on the wrecked vessel itself, the jurisdiction of Spain in the waters of Havana harbor is equally clear. Spain has given a further proof of her friendliness in not insisting upon her suggestion of a joint investigation. There has been such grave surmise that the disaster was brought about by exterior assault that if Spain had stood upon the edge of her right in dealing with the incident it would have had an unfortunate influence upon the susceptibilities of the people of this country—already overwrought by the horrors of the Cuban situation and always ready to fight upon apparent occasion.

"In insisting upon a deliberate and careful scrutiny of every iota of evidence that could clear up the mystery of the explosion, through agents of its own appointment and by means of its own devising, our Government has also been wisely insistent. Nothing less would have satisfied the public mind and put an end to doubt. The wreck will testify for itself. Its dumb evidence will demonstrate beyond contradiction whether interior or exterior violence brought about the awful catastrophe. It may not definitely fix the blame; but it will show whether defect or carelessness on the ship, or hellishness on the shore, is responsible.

"Whilst investigation is being made it is not only judicious but reasonable and right that public opinion should remain suspended. No credence should be given to the thousand-and-one inventions that every day find their way into the newspapers. There is no reason why the fullest confidence should not be reposed in our own Government and in its ability and willingness to maintain at all hazards the credit and honor of the nation."

OUR GRANDMOTHERS' REMEDY.

Cough medicine will not cure consumption, but Dr. David's Cough Syrup will cure the cough which, if neglected, will end in consumption. Pure pine tar, honey-scented and wild cherry—Our grandmothers' remedy.

HANCOCK REMOVED.

Robert Hancock has been removed by Gov. Russell as a member of the Board of Directors of the Atlantic and North Carolina railroad. Governor Russell's action in the matter will meet with universal approval both in this State and other states.

NO BARROOMS IN HARNETT.

William Rogers, of Harnett county, writes the North Carolina Baptist, published at Fayetteville, that since there are no barrooms in the county it seems like a different place. The editor of THE COMMONWEALTH knows many people of Harnett county, having been born and reared there to the age of 22 years; and we are greatly pleased to learn of their freedom from the widespread ruin of the liquor traffic. There may be now and then a "spring branch still," but with proper watchfulness by the revenue officers they will be largely inactive and the old county will move up in prosperity.

THE MAINE WRECKED.

The battleship Maine which was sent from the United States to Havana a few weeks ago, was blown up on the night of 15th. It was quietly at anchor in Havana harbor when about 10 o'clock there was a terrible explosion, and the ship soon went down. Of the 350 men on board only about a hundred were saved.

It was a most shocking disaster, and two continents have been horrified with the reports.

Various theories have been advanced, some claiming it to be the work of the Spanish government by means of a torpedo, others saying it must have been an accident. Meantime by order of Congress a thorough investigation has been commenced, and it will be sometime before the facts can be had. Divers will have to do much work before it is known what are the evidences as to whether it was an explosion within the ship or the work of a torpedo from the outside.

Among the lost on the Maine were two young men from North Carolina; Pope Washington of Goldsboro, and Trubie Finch of Raleigh.

WILLIAM J. BRYAN'S PROGRAMME.

Richmond Dispatch.

Mr. William J. Bryan has announced that he will not be a candidate either for the Senate or the House of Representatives. He has also issued an address on which the opponents of the Republican party should make their congressional campaign this year. They are as follows:

"First—They are unalterably opposed to gold monometallism.

"Second—They demand the immediate restoration of bimetalism at the present ratio by the independent action of this country.

"Third—They oppose the retirement of the greenbacks.

"Fourth—They oppose the issue of paper money by national banks.

"Fifth—They oppose the issue of interest bearing bonds in time of peace.

"Sixth—They favor the income tax as a means of raising a part of the revenue necessary to administer the Federal Government.

"Seventh—They favor the abolition of trusts.

"Eighth—They are opposed to government by injunction.

"Ninth—They are in favor of arbitration as a means of settling disputes between labor and capital."

Here are the nine issues, which are not only important in themselves, but are now prominently before the people. Are not these reforms worth securing? These questions were submitted to the people at the last election, but they were not settled, and will not be settled until they are settled right.

NASH COUNTY ITEMS.

(Correspondence to THE COMMONWEALTH.)

GOLD ROCK, N. C., Feby. 21st, '98.

Our planters are making good head way with their work, and from the way they are burning plant beds one would judge that there will be an increased acreage of tobacco planted this year, and cotton acreage decreased in proportion.

Forest fires have been very common in this section and in many places they have been very destructive to timber and stock law fence.

The wind blew down Mr. Bisco Pittman's horse stables Tuesday night, and killed a mule and wounded two others.

Household Gods.

The ancient Greeks believed that the Penates were the gods who attended to the welfare and prosperity of the family. They were worshipped as household gods in every home. The household god of to-day is Dr. King's New Discovery. For consumption, coughs, colds and for all affections of Throat, Chest and Lungs it is invaluable. It has been tried for a quarter of a century and is guaranteed to cure, or money returned. No household should be without this good angel. It is pleasant to take and a safe and sure remedy for old and young. Free trial bottles at E. T. Whitehead & Co.'s Drug store. Regular size 50c. and \$1.00.

WAKEFOREST LETTER.

(Correspondence to THE COMMONWEALTH.)

WAKE FOREST, Feb. 15, 1898.

Mr. Robt. E. Royall has returned from Savannah to Wake Forest where he will make his home. We are glad to welcome him among us.

Dr. Powers and Mr. R. S. Dodd have completed their large brick store on Main street, which adds much to the beauty of the town. The upper story is used by some of the students as a dormitory. The first floor furnishes accommodations for Mr. Z. V. Peed, merchant, and Mess R. S. Dodd and Co., dealers in gent's furnishing goods. The post-office is also kept in this building.

On Feb. 11, the Wake Forest Literary Societies celebrated their 63rd anniversary. It seemed like commencement, the weather being like summer and such a large number of the trustees and Alumni were present.

At 2:30 o'clock a large crowd assembled in Wingate Memorial Hall to hear the discussion of the afternoon by the representatives from each society. President E. L. Womble called the house to order, and made a very appropriate address of welcome, after which the question for debate was read by Sec. J. L. Jarvis.

"Should all government appointments be subject to civil service regulation?"

The first speaker on the affirmative was Mr. Jackson Hamilton, Union N. C. The time allotted each speaker was 20 minutes for the first speech and 10 minutes for the second. The first speaker on the negative was Mr. Charles S. Burgess, Craven, N. C.

The next speaker on the affirmative was Mr. Walter Cohoon, Pasquotank. He was followed by Mr. J. C. Owen of Transylvania, representing the negative. Then 10 minutes were given for reply to their opponents which was much enjoyed by the entire audience. They showed this by constant applause.

The question was decided by vote in favor of the affirmative. The speakers all acquitted themselves admirably.

The Durham band furnished music for the occasion.

The congregation reassembled at 7:30 o'clock to hear the orations by the following gentlemen:

Mr. T. Neil Johnson, of Tennessee. Subject, "Our Civic Mission." He represented the Euclidian Society. Mr. John Davis Larkins, of Pender, represented the Philomathean Society. His subject was, "The Federation of the world." The orations were splendid and were much appreciated by the entire audience.

After the orations Mr. R. C. Camp, of Florida, in behalf of the societies invited the crowd to visit the society halls.

The young people remained in the halls until late in the night, where their friendships were made.

There has been an association formed among the students of the college to elevate the christian growth among the students, and to do more active christian work. The name Wake Forest College Students Christian Association has been given to the organization. This association will send two delegates to Cleveland, Ohio, Feb. 23, to represent the missionary interest of the college.

W. O. R.

[This letter was intended for last issue but was a little too late.—Editor.]

BROKE HIS ARM.

(Correspondence to THE COMMONWEALTH.)

HAMILTON, N. C. Feb. 22, 1898.

Little Boge Slade had the misfortune to break his arm last week. He is a great favorite in Hamilton and the accident is regretted by his many friends.

Miss Hattie Darden, who has been visiting Miss Carrie Alexander, near Scotland Neck, returned home Saturday.

Miss Mary Howell has returned home after a pleasant visit to Tarboro.

Miss Louise Cotten of Baltimore is visiting Miss Hattie Darden.

Mrs. Bettie Gardner, the mother of our esteemed townsman, Mr. W. K. Gardner, has been very sick, but we are glad to note she is better.

The young ladies of the Baptist Church will give an oyster supper on Tuesday night, for the benefit of their church. We wish them much success.

Sick-poison is a poison which makes you sick. It comes from the stomach. The stomach makes it out of undigested food.

The blood gets it and taints the whole body with it. That's the way of it. The way to be rid of it is to look after your digestion.

If your food is all properly digested, there will be none left in the stomach to make sick-poison out of.

If your stomach is too weak to see to this properly itself, help it along with a few doses of Shaker Digestive Cordial.

That's the cure of it. Shaker Digestive Cordial is a delicious, healthful, tonic cordial, made of pure medicinal plants, herbs and wine. It positively cures indigestion and prevents the formation of sick-poison. At drugists. Trial bottles 10 cents.

Are You Weak?

Weakness manifests itself in the loss of ambition and aching bones. The blood is watery; the tissues are wasting—the door is being opened for disease. A bottle of Brown's Iron Bitters taken in time will restore your strength, soothe your nerves, make your blood rich and red. Do you more good than any expensive special course of medicine. Brown's Iron Bitters is sold by all dealers.

SPICY ENFIELD PARAGRAPHS.

(Correspondence to THE COMMONWEALTH.)

ENFIELD, N. C., Feby 21, '98.

Not being at home last Monday, I will report for two weeks, and don't hear of any deaths or marriages in that time here, which I think is the first time this year we have not had such to report.

Dr. and Mrs. Harrison had a house warming of their handsome residence the 8th inst. and the young people had a nice, or warm time.

They had a cake walk at the hotel Friday night the 11th inst. for the benefit of the P. E. Church, and Mrs. Pittman and Joe Pippin took the cake.

Our fine looking and good postmaster made a trip to Raleigh with her little daughter recently.

Mr. R. O. Whitaker, of Rocky Mt., came up on a visit to his parents.

Miss Marie Dennis gave a valentine party at her father's, which was much enjoyed.

The young men gave an elegant supper to the young ladies at Dr. Harrison's Thursday night, to the delight of those that attended.

Mrs. Dr. W. J. Ward had a delightful party Friday night in honor of her sister, Miss Katie Cohen, of Weldon.

Mr. Hawkins, after spending many years in Texas, returned to his native home here just before Xmas.

Dr. L. T. Whitaker, after spending some days in Texas, has returned saying he can do as well here as there.

The talk now is a peanut factory here.

WHITAKERS PHOTOGRAPHS.

(Correspondence to THE COMMONWEALTH.)

WHITAKERS, N. C., Feb. 21, 1898.

Rev. E. M. Andrews filled his appointment in the M. P. Church Sunday morning and night. This is his second year here and he is very popular with our people.

Messrs. Beavins, Petway, Batts, Winborne of Enfield spent Sunday here, Mr. W. Brooks of Black Creek was in town Sunday.

Dr. J. C. Braswell left Monday for Littleton.

Mr. W. C. Taylor returned from Norfolk Monday.

Miss Mary Bradley who has been visiting friends in Wilson returned home Tuesday.

Messrs W. S. Knight and T. H. Cutchin attended Court in Tarboro last week.

Dr. G. E. Matthews, of Ringwood, was in town Thursday.

Mr. W. J. Robertson, who has charge of the public school here, left Friday for a few days' visit to his home at Conetoe.

Miss Inez Barnes returned Saturday from Branchville, where she had been to attend the funeral of her grandmother.

Mr. P. V. Matthews, a young attorney at law, has cast his lot with us. We welcome him and wish him abundant success.

We are glad to note that our town has been furnished with new street lamps and they are quite an improvement.

Mr. J. H. Cutchin is having two buildings erected on Church Street. Cards are out announcing the marriage of Miss Clio Draughton to Mr. W. H. Draughton of Fayetteville, on March 2nd.

Bills are out for the entertainment on February 24th to be given by amateur talent of our town for the benefit of the M. E. Church. A treat is in store for all who attend.

Use Macnair's Blood and Liver Pills for all Blood and Liver complaints. For sale by E. T. Whitehead & Co.

FULLY EQUIPPED AND UP TO DATE!

Our Stock of WATCHES, DIAMONDS, CLOCKS, SILVERWARE, NOVELTIES, FINE CHINA, LAMPS, CUT GLASS, MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, STRINGS, &c.

The Field for selection is widest. Prices Lowest. Repairing, adjusting and timing of fine Watches. Satisfaction Guaranteed.

BELL, the Tarboro Jeweler, TARBORO, N. C. 2 18 1y

Pepsinagogue cures dyspepsia, Tones up the heart and steadies the nerves. Makes old people strong. Taking 40 to 50 drops doses for several months cures Asthma. If your druggist does not keep it send 50 cents to Dr. Hyatt, Kinston, N. C., and get a bottle by mail.

Baby's Coming



means pain, danger and possible death for some wives. For others it means practically no discomfort at all. There is no reason why childbirth should be a period of pain and dread. Several months before a woman becomes a mother she should prepare herself for the critical ordeal.

There is a preparation made which is intended for this purpose alone. The name of this wonderful preparation is

Mother's Friend.

It is a liniment to be applied externally. It relaxes the muscles and relieves the tension, gives elasticity to every organ concerned in childbirth, and takes away all danger and nearly all suffering. Best results follow if the remedy is used during the whole period of pregnancy. It is the only remedy of the kind in the world that is endorsed by physicians.

\$1 per bottle at all drug stores, or sent by mail on receipt of price.

FREE BOOKS containing invaluable information for all women, will be sent to any address upon application to

The Bradford Register Co., Atlanta, Ga.

Now's Your Time

NEW YEAR BARGAINS

—still wait for you in—

MILLINERY.

The Christmas Trade left many pretty things which can be had almost

AT YOUR OWN PRICE.

I bought them to sell and THEY MUST BE SOLD.

MY NEW YEAR GREETING—Come secure a Bargain and be happy all the year.

MRS. W. H. WHITE.

ONE OF TWO WAYS.

The bladder was created for one purpose, namely, a receptacle for the urine, and as such it is not liable to any form of disease except by one of two ways. The first way is from imperfect action of the kidneys. The second way is from careless local treatment of other diseases.

CHIEF CAUSE.

Unhealthy urine from unhealthy kidneys is the chief cause of bladder troubles. So the womb, like the bladder, was created for one purpose, and if not doctored too much is not liable to weakness or disease, except in rare cases. It is situated back of and very close to the bladder, therefore any pain disease or inconvenience manifested in the kidneys, back, bladder or urinary passage is often by mistake, attributed to female weakness or womb trouble of some sort. The error is easily made and may be as easily avoided. To find out correctly, set your urine for twenty four hours; a sediment or settling indicates kidney or bladder trouble. The mild and extraordinary effect of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp Root, the great kidney and bladder remedy is soon applied if you need a medicine you should have the best. At druggists fifty cents and one dollar. You may have a pamphlet and pamphlet, both sent free by mail, upon receipt of three two-cent stamps to cover cost of postage on the bottle. Mention THE COMMONWEALTH and send your address to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. The proprietor of this paper guarantees the genuineness of this offer.

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A BIG SALE.

We are just receiving a line of great bargains from a big Manufacturer's Sale. Such bargains We never offered before.

Heavy Rugs best grade 1x2 yds \$1.88. Reversible Rugs 1x2 yds 98c. 15 Different patterns and sizes art Squares and Druggists half wool and all wool \$1.98, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.75.

We are having a big rush on floor Matting, 9, 12, 15, 18c. Our buyer struck a big job in floor. Oil Cloth, some beautiful patterns. 1, 1 1/2, 2 yds wide, 15, 20, 25c.

Curtain poles with wood fixtures 25c.

Curtain poles with brass fixtures 18, 20c.

Chenille Curtains 3 and 8 yds long \$1.25, \$1.50.

A large lot of remnants moquette and Brussels Carpet for rugs with fringe to match at half price. We are closing out a lot of bureaus with large mirrors \$2.27, \$3.50, and \$4.00.

Trilby and other styles air light heaters, No. 18, \$2.38; No. 22, \$2.98.

We are having a big rush, and our best bargains are moving. Remember we prepay freight on all goods bought at one time amounting to \$5.00 and over.

SPICERS & DAVIS, Feb. 3, 1898. WELDON, N. C.

Send your orders for Job Printing to this office. First class work and low prices.

THE NEW BERNE FAIR

—WILL BE HELD—

February 28th to March 5th, 1898

It will be better and more attractive than ever. New Features will predominate throughout.

The Finest Racing, Liberal Premiums Purses aggregate \$4,000. In all Departments

The Exhibits of Fish, Game, Oysters, Live Stock, Poultry and Agricultural Products will be the finest ever displayed.

Something to amuse and instruct on every hand. In the Ladies' Department the Display will be unusually large and will embrace some of the finest specimens of Woman's Handwork ever shown at a Fair.

The Greatest of all Attractions.

Kemp Sisters' Hippodrome and Wild West Shows. A thrilling and realistic exhibition of Wild Frontier Life, enacted by Genuine Western Cow Boys and Girls with the ponies, mustangs and trappings of every day life in the far west. The entire performance takes place on the Race Track every afternoon during the Fair, and is ABSOLUTELY FREE. Don't miss seeing it.

For Premium List or other information address the Secretary. 2-3-4 GEORGE GREEN, New Berne, N. C.

If You Want to Save

From 25 to 50 per cent on all purchases, Go to MEYER, THE HUSTLER, Enfield, N. C. Below he quotes a few of his prices: Men's Full Size shirt 16c. Nice Handkerchiefs 3c; a Fine Pair Suspenders 8c; a Nice Under-Shirt 17c; All-Wool Suit of Clothes \$3.98; a fine Hat at 98c; Fine Dongola Button Shirt 93c. Light Calico at 33c; Dark Calico at 44c; Nice Bleaching at 4c; Broad Cotton Cloth a yard wide 5c; Black Satteen 9c; Fancy Worsted 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330,